

SOUTHERN
MIDLANDS
COUNCIL



Annual General Meeting

MINUTES

Wednesday, 12th December 2018
5.00 p.m.

Municipal Offices
71 High Street, Oatlands

MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL
Wednesday 12th December 2018 at the Municipal Office,
71 High Street, Oatlands at 5.00 p.m.

1. OPENING/WELCOME

Mayor Alex Green opened the Southern Midlands Council Annual General Meeting and welcomed those present.

2. APOLOGIES

Clr A E Bisdee OAM

3. ATTENDANCE

Councillors: Mayor A O Green, Deputy Mayor E Batt, Clr A Bantick, Clr K Dudgeon, Clr D Fish, Clr R McDougall

Officers: Tim Kirkwood (General Manager), Jack Lyall (Manager, Infrastructure and Works), Michelle Webster (A/Community Development Officer) and Elisa Lang (Executive Assistant)

Residents: Richard Ho, Wajra Yong-Le, Wai Yin Prisca Kwok, Eleanor Bjorksten, Karen Mathieson, Terry Loftus, Kerry Lee, Marie Lee, Chris Harman, Kay Harman

4. MEETING PROCEDURES

Refer Attachment 1.

5. 2017/2018 ANNUAL REPORT & 2017/2018 GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1 Mayor's Report

Mayor Alex Green presented the 2017/2018 Annual Report, incorporating the 2017/2018 General Purpose Financial Report.

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor E Batt, seconded by Clr D Fish

THAT the Annual Report for the year ending 30th June 2018 incorporating the 2017/2018 General Purpose Financial Report be received.

CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor A O Green	√	
Deputy Mayor E Batt	√	
Clr A Bantick	√	
Clr K Dudgeon	√	
Clr D F Fish	√	
Clr R McDougall	√	

6. STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2027

6.1 Invitation to provide comment on Council's Strategic Plan

Members of the public were encouraged to provide comment on the 2018-2027 Strategic Plan at any time.

6.2 Questions/Discussion on Strategic Plan

The General Manager noted that a major review of the Strategic Plan occurred in 2018. This review included extensive community consultation and the opportunity to provide comment on the Strategic Plan is welcome at any time.

It was requested that the current Strategic Plan (2018-2027) appear first on the website listing and indicate that it is the current version.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS ON NOTICE

Nil.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS WITHOUT NOTICE

TERRY LOFTUS - OATLANDS

The following motion was put forward.

- **Council Meeting Times**

MOTION

Moved by Terry Loftus, seconded by Martin Bloomfield

THAT

The elected council trial a six month period with Council Meetings starting at 4.30 p.m. and conclude by 8.30 p.m. Then conduct a community review regarding the best time for all future Council Meetings.

CARRIED

- **Public Question Time**

The following motion was put forward.

MOTION

Moved by Terry Loftus, seconded by Martin Bloomfield

THAT

Council retain Public Question Time as Item 9 on the agenda and taken prior to the Council's determination of any reports on that day's agenda.

CARRIED

▪ Forensic Audit of Council Finances

The following motion was put forward.

MOTION

Moved by Terry Loftus, seconded by Martin Bloomfield

THAT

- 1) The elected Council appoint an independent forensic accountant to review all aspects of the Southern Midlands Council finances including its private business activities for the past five years.**
- 2) The forensic accountant's unabridged report and recommendations are to be presented to the Mayor for official release at a public community meeting at a date to be established.**

MOTION LOST

KAY HARMAN - BAGDAD

Question regarding trees at Maher's Point, Esplanade at Oatlands – can an update be provided?

The General Manager advised that the macrocarpa trees were removed due to safety issues and a landscape plan was developed for this area. Due to the trees being located on crown land the relevant application was lodged with PWS. Council pre-empted the assessment process and removed the trees. As part of the PWS process, an aboriginal assessment must be undertaken and Council are now awaiting on conclusion of the assessment from relevant government agencies. The area will be rehabilitated and landscaped once this process is completed.

CHRIS HARMAN - BAGDAD

Question regarding community consultation and developing a better system on wider topics that affect the community (e.g. bus services) and information provided from relevant departments.

The Mayor indicated that as part of a proposed economic development / tourism development strategy process, it is anticipated that this will include 'local consultation groups' being established which will assist in this process.

As part of this discussion, the Deputy Mayor acknowledged the many individuals who provide voluntary assistance to Council and believes that Council do not acknowledge these people enough and thanked Mr Harman in particular for his assistance with the Kempton Medical Centre.

9. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 5.42 p.m.

MEETING PROCEDURES

1. The Annual General Meeting is in essence a Council meeting and will be conducted in accordance with normal Council procedures for the conduct of meetings; with the exception of course it is intended to make it as easy as possible for members of the public to have input so that maximum benefits is gained.
2. The Mayor is Chairman of the meeting.
3. The first part of the meeting comprises a presentation of an overview of:
 - (i) the Annual Report
 - (ii) Financial Statement, and
 - (iii) the Strategic Plan
4. At the conclusion of each of these presentations electors may ask questions.
5. Questions and comments should be concise to allow as many people as possible to have their input.
6. No one is to be interrupted whilst they are speaking.
7. You will be asked, as a matter of courtesy and for the minutes, to identify yourself before speaking.
8. All discussion will be addressed through the chair.
9. No person may:
 - (i) make any personal reflection on any Councillors, Council employee or member of the public;
 - (ii) disrupt the meeting; or
 - (iii) in the opinion of the Chairman, use any offensive expression.
10. If you intend to move a motion the following procedures apply: -
 - (i) All motions must be moved and seconded before debate is permitted.
 - (ii) In speaking to a motion, individuals may speak only once and for no longer than 5 minutes.
 - (iii) Voting is by a show of hands.
 - (iv) Only electors of the Southern Midlands municipal area are entitled to vote.
 - (v) A motion is passed by half plus one of the electors present voting in favour of it.
11. Any resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting will be considered at the next ordinary meeting of Council.